

INFORMATION REPORT
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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Albania

SUBJECT New Consumer Goods Stores in Albania
25X1A

PLACE
ACQUIRED

25X1A OF
INFO.

1. During the month of December 1950 the Albanian Government allegedly opened in big cities special stores which sell shoes, cloth and certain foods. These items may be purchased, however, only with U. S. currency or gold napoleons.
2. Much of the population has been reluctant to patronize the shops because of the fear that it may be a trick on the part of the Security Police to learn who possesses foreign currency and gold.

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Comment: If true, this surprising action might also be an effort to obtain some indication of the extent of foreign financial support of suspect groups or individuals, and through pressure on such groups or individuals to ascertain their sources of supply. It might likewise indicate an attempt to bolster the Albanian economy somewhat by encouraging hidden wealth to make its appearance and be channelled into the State coffers.

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
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